



STEVE COOLEY  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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210 WEST TEMPLE STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-3210 (213) 974-3501

August 7, 2007

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZE THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO APPLY FOR FOURTEENTH-YEAR  
GRANT FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
(DOJ) FOR THE SPOUSAL ABUSER PROSECUTION PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR  
(FY) 2007-08 (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Authorize the District Attorney, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles, to submit a grant application to the State DOJ for the Spousal Abuser Prosecution Program (SAPP) in the amount of \$191,397 for the period of July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. There is a required 20 percent match of \$38,279, along with additional program costs, which the District Attorney will absorb.
2. Adopt the attached Resolution authorizing the District Attorney to submit an application for grant funding and, as an agent for the County, to accept and execute a Grant Award Agreement (GAA) from the State DOJ in the event the application is selected for funding.
3. Authorize the District Attorney, or his designee, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles, to serve as Project Director and to sign and approve any extensions or amendments to the GAA that do not increase the net County cost.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

This will be the fourteenth year the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has applied for grant funding from the State DOJ for this program.

The SAPP grant allows the Department to provide vertical prosecution, investigation and witness coordination services for the most difficult family violence victim cases.

Board authorization is required to apply for and accept the grant award. The attached Resolution has been approved as to form by County Counsel.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

Authorizing the District Attorney to apply for SAPP grant funds supports the County's Strategic Plan Goal No. 4, Fiscal Responsibility, by maximizing revenues to offset program costs. The program also supports the District Attorney's core mission to vigorously prosecute felony crime throughout the County.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The estimated cost of the program for FY 2007-08 is \$405,679. The State DOJ has awarded the County of Los Angeles \$191,397, with a required 20% match of \$38,279. Approximately 47% of the estimated program cost will be offset by the grant award. The District Attorney's Office will absorb the match amount and the remaining program cost of \$176,003.

Funding for this program is included in the Department's 2007-08 budget.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

In 1994, AB 801 was signed into law authorizing funds to be allocated by the State DOJ for the SAPP. As an integral part of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Family Violence Division, the SAPP staff is highly trained and qualified, working as a team to facilitate the successful prosecution of the most difficult family violence cases. The grant staffing includes one Deputy District Attorney, one Senior Investigator, and one Witness Assistant II, which will be funded by the grant at approximately 47% of their total cost, with the District Attorney's Office absorbing the remaining cost.

The one assigned SAPP prosecutor carries a reduced caseload to facilitate sustained victim contact and intensive case preparation. In FY 2005-06, this prosecutor achieved 29 convictions with only four cases requiring jury trial. In the first nine months of 2006-07, the SAPP prosecutor has filed 23 cases and prosecuted four jury trials.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES**

This program does not propose attorney staff augmentation. Therefore, the District Attorney's Office is not subject to the Board motion of December 15, 1998, requiring clearance with the Alternate Public Defender, Probation, Public Defender and Sheriff's Departments.

**CONCLUSION**

Following Board approval, please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return two (2) copies of the adopted Board letter and two (2) Resolutions, with original signatures, to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, Contracts and Grants Unit, 201 North Figueroa Street, Suite 1300, Los Angeles, California 90012, Attention: Ms. Patricia Orozco. Any questions may be directed to Ms. Orozco at (213) 202-7651, or via e-mail at [porozco@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:porozco@da.lacounty.gov).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marking Matrone for Steve Cooley".

STEVE COOLEY  
District Attorney

cmc:al

Attachments

c: Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel



1                                   **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
2                                   **COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**  
3                                   **RESOLUTION**

4           Authorization to apply for and accept grant funding from the State of California,  
5           Department of Justice for the Spousal Abuser Prosecution Program Pursuant to  
6           California Penal Code Chapter 2.5 Commencing with Section 273.8 et. Seq.

7                   **WHEREAS**, the County of Los Angeles is charged with providing vital  
8           services in the area of courts, law enforcement, and adult and juvenile justice to a  
9           population in excess of ten million persons; and

10                   **WHEREAS**, the County of Los Angeles, Office of the District Attorney, is  
11           authorized, pursuant to Government Code Section 26500.5, to participate in any project  
12           or program to improve the administration of justice; and

13                   **WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles,  
14           accepted thirteenth year grant funds on August 8, 2006, from the State of California,  
15           Department of Justice, (hereinafter referred to as DOJ) to continue efforts by the District  
16           Attorney's Office to enhance its Family Violence Division through participation in the  
17           Spousal Abuser Prosecution Program; and

18                   **WHEREAS**, the County of Los Angeles acting through its Board of  
19           Supervisors, desires to continue the Spousal Abuser Prosecution Program by applying  
20           for fourteenth-year grant funds from the State DOJ covering the period of July 1, 2007  
21           to June 30, 2008;

22                   **WHEREAS**, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has sole  
23           independent prosecutorial discretion to determine which matters should be filed as  
24           criminal cases and to accord objective and impartial consideration to each individual  
25           case, including options relating to pleas and sentencing. The prosecutor(s) assigned to  
26           the Spousal Abuser Prosecution Program will appropriately and independently furnish to  
                the County of Los Angeles prosecutorial legal services for vertical prosecution in

1 accordance with the rules of ethics and professional responsibility governing the actions  
2 of prosecuting attorneys;

3 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors of  
4 the County of Los Angeles hereby authorizes the District Attorney to apply for grant  
5 funds for the Spousal Abuser Prosecution Program;

6 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that should the District Attorney receive  
7 grant funding it will be used exclusively for this program for the period of July 1, 2007 to  
8 June 30, 2008;

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that should the District Attorney's Office  
10 receive grant funding for this program, the District Attorney is authorized to execute the  
11 Grant Award Agreement on behalf of the County of Los Angeles, and may sign and  
12 approve on behalf of the Board of Supervisors the Grant Award Agreement, including  
13 any extensions, amendments, or modifications that do not increase the net County cost  
14 of the Agreement;

15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County of Los Angeles agrees to  
16 appropriate and make available, matching funds of 20% required under the grant  
17 program guidelines;

18 **IT IS AGREED** that liability arising out of the performance of this Grant  
19 Award Agreement, including civil court actions for damages shall be the responsibility of  
20 the grant recipient and the authorizing agency. It is recognized that the State DOJ  
21 disclaims responsibility for any such liability;

22 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County of Los Angeles agrees not  
23 to use awarded grant funds to supplant local expenditures previously authorized or  
24 controlled by this body;

25 **I DO HEREBY CERTIFY** that at a regular meeting of the Board of  
26 Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2007, the  
foregoing Resolution was adopted.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

County of Los Angeles

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

SACHI A. HAMAI,  
Executive Officer-Clerk of the  
Board of Supervisors of the  
County of Los Angeles

By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
BY COUNTY COUNSEL:

RAYMOND G. FORTNER, JR.

By Jennifer L. Homan  
Deputy



**Los Angeles County Chief Administrative Office**  
**Grant Management Statement for Grants Exceeding \$100,000**

**Department:** District Attorney

**Grant Project Title and Description**

**Spousal Abuser Prosecution Program**

The Spousal Abuser Prosecution Program is a vertical prosecution program that enhances local efforts to prosecute and convict individuals who commit spousal abuse crimes. The program requires highly qualified staff, reduced caseloads, victim counseling and coordination with local victim service organizations.

**Funding Agency**  
State of California  
Department of Justice

**Program (Fed. Grant # /State Bill or Code #)**  
AB801, Chapter 599, Statutes of 1994  
(Penal Code Section 273.8)

**Grant Acceptance Deadline**

Total Amount of Grant Funding: **\$191,397**

County Match: **\$38,279**

Grant Period: **FY 2007 – 2008**

Begin Date: **July 1, 2007**

End Date: **June 30, 2008**

Number of Personnel Hired Under this Grant: **3**

Full Time: **3**

Part Time: **0**

**Obligations Imposed on the County When the Grant Expires**

Will all personnel hired for this program be informed this is a grant-funded program? Yes   X   No       

Will all personnel hired for this program be placed on temporary ("N") items? Yes   X   No       

Is the County obligated to continue this program after the grant expires? Yes        No   X  

If the County is not obligated to continue this program after the grant expires, the Department will:

a). Absorb the program cost without reducing other services Yes        No   X  

b). Identify other revenue sources Yes        No   X  

(Describe) \_\_\_\_\_

c). Eliminate or reduce, as appropriate, positions/program costs funded by the grant. Yes   X   No       

**Impact of additional personnel on existing space:**

None.

**Department Head Signature**

*Mary Matsunaka for Steve Cooley*

**Date**

*7/16/07*